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Senate

The Senate met at 9:15 a.m. and was called to order by the Hon. John ASHCROFT, a Senator from the State of Missouri.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. We are favored today with the presence of a guest Chaplain, Dr. Greg Mathis of Mud Creek Baptist Church from Hendersonville, NC. Our guest Chaplain will lead the Senate in prayer.

PRAYER

The Reverend Dr. Greg Mathis of Mud Creek Baptist Church, Hendersonville, NC, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray:
Heavenly Father, thank You for the privilege of prayer. In obedience to You, I lift up the leaders of our country who are in positions of authority and responsibility. Remind each of us this day that all wisdom begins with You. Help us, O Lord, to work this day to protect our heritage, to find common ground for the present, and to have a vision for the future. May this be our purpose. Heavenly Father, guide us to give careful thought to our ways. Grant special insight to our leaders to anything that would threaten our country. Give integrity to them today as they hear, speak, think, and decide. Give them initiative to accomplish something for the good of all. Remind us, O Lord, that You are sovereign. May Your word be our standard of righteousness. May Your love be our example of kindness. May the wonderful salvation You offer to us through Your son, Jesus Christ, find acceptance. Heavenly Father, I pray that everything that transpires here this day will be pleasing to You and in accordance with Your will. This I pray in the name of Jesus Christ, the Saviour of the world. Amen.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication

to the Senate from the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, May 15, 1997.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, section 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable JOHN ASHCROFT, a Senator from the State of Missouri, to perform the duties of the Chair.

STROM THURMOND,
President pro tempore.

Mr. ASHCROFT thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from North Carolina is recognized.

THE GUEST CHAPLAIN

Mr. FAIRCLOTH. Mr. President, the Reverend Greg Mathis, pastor of Mud Creek Baptist Church in Hendersonville, NC, is one of our outstanding ministers from North Carolina. Reverend Mathis graduated from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, NC, and he has pastored Mud Creek for 20 years. During that time, the church experienced a remarkable growth under his leadership. Reverend Mathis is serving his second term as president of the North Carolina Baptist State Convention. The North Carolina Baptist State Convention is the foremost religious organization in North Carolina. It has 3,600 churches and represents 1.2 million worshippers.

Reverend Mathis' wife, Deborah, is with us today, and his three children are back in North Carolina attending school. Also with Reverend Mathis today is the chairman of the board of deacons, Greg Corn, and his wife, Susie.

It is a distinct honor and my pleasure to have Rev. Greg Mathis as our guest Chaplain of the U.S. Senate today and to have led us in our opening prayer. I thank him for being here.

SCHEDULE

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, for the information of all Senators, today the Senate will resume consideration of S. 4, the Family Friendly Workplace Act. Under the previous order, at approximately 10 a.m., the Senate will vote on a motion to invoke cloture on S. 4. Following that vote, there will be a period for morning business until the hour of 11 a.m. to accommodate a number of the Senators who have requested time to speak. In addition, I remind all Members that they have until 10 a.m. to file second-degree amendments to S. 4.

Also, by previous order, at 11 a.m., the Senate will resume consideration of H.R. 1122, the partial-birth abortion ban bill, with Senator FEINSTEIN recognized to offer an amendment. Debate on the Feinstein amendment will last until approximately 2 p.m., with the time equally divided between Senator FEINSTEIN and Senator SANTORUM. At approximately 2 p.m., a rollcall vote will occur on, or in relation to, the Feinstein amendment.

Following the disposition of the Feinstein amendment, Senator DASCHLE will be recognized to offer his amendment to H.R. 1122, and under a consent agreement, there will be 5 hours of debate in order equally divided between Senator DASCHLE and Senator SANTORUM. Therefore, Senators can anticipate a vote on, or in relation to, the Daschle amendment later this evening. Consequently, Members can expect rollcall votes throughout today's session of the Senate. As always, Senators will be notified with as much notice as possible as to the exact time of these ordered votes.

The majority leader reminds all Members that next week, as the last

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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